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REDS FIGHT TO HOLD FOOTHOLD ON HAINAN

Remnants of big invasion force break encirclement GUERRILLAS ATTACK

Hoihow, April 19.

More than 1,000 Communist troops at Linkao fought desperately today to retain their foothold on Hainan Island until reinforcements arrive.

Russians taking over Sinkiang

Taipei, April 19.

Pro-Nationalist reports said China's far North Western province of Sinkiang (Chinese Turkistan) was being rapidly converted into a Soviet Russian military camp.

This process, the reports said, had followed recent conclusion of a pact between Moscow and Red China for joint exploitation of Sinkiang's oil and mineral resources.

The Russians, the reports alleged, were pouring two brigades of troops into Sinkiang and planned to settle 100,000 Soviet citizens there in the next few months.

Sinkiang was recently named by the United States Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, as one of the areas which he charged Soviet Russia was detaching from China.

Sinkiang, with an estimated area of more than 600,000 square miles, is by far the largest province in China.—Associated Press.

McCarthy prompted by KMT

Washington, April 19.

Mr. Frank Buchanan, Democratic chairman of the House lobby investigating committee said today "there is no question" but that the Chinese Nationalist lobby had been supplying information to Republican Senator Joseph McCarthy.

He said his committee made a preliminary check of individuals whom Professor Owen Lattimore claims were responsible for Senator McCarthy's charges that the Far Eastern expert is a Communist.

He said since there were no violations of the lobbying law, no further investigation was planned "at the present time."

Professor Lattimore specifically mentioned Mr. Alfred Kohler, a wealthy New York importer of Chinese textiles, and Mr. William Goodwin, who registered last year as a lobbyist for the Nationalist government.

Mr. Buchanan said Senator McCarthy's "ghost writers" include former Republican Charles Kersten. He said Mr. Kersten and his associates worked with the China lobby in room 813 of the Congressional Hotel—right across the street from the House office building.

"We spotted and checked and followed them," Mr. Buchanan said. "There is no question they have been feeding Mr. McCarthy information."—United Press.

THE WEATHER

AT 0600 GMT (8 p.m. HKST) the low pressure system to the East of Japan is moving North Eastwards. A moderate anticyclone covers the Sea of Japan. Pressure appears to be falling over the Lower Yangtze.

Today's Forecast: Light S or SE winds. Cloudy and warm, with fair periods.

Yesterday's Weather:
Maximum: 75.2 deg. F.
Minimum: 69.8 deg. F.
Sunshine: 2.5 hours.
Rainfall: 1.6 mm (0.06 in). Total since Jan. 1—166.5 mm (6.55 in). as against an average of 582.2 mm (23 in).

Barometer at 10 a.m. (1950):
Hainan: 30.00
Kowloon: 30.00
Hong Kong: 30.00
Shanghai: 30.00
Tientsin: 30.00
Peking: 30.00
Yokohama: 30.00
Manila: 30.00
Singapore: 30.00
Batavia: 30.00
Cebu: 30.00
Iloilo: 30.00
Zamboanga: 30.00
Davao: 30.00
Cagayan: 30.00
Iligan: 30.00
Subic Bay: 30.00
Clark: 30.00
Baguio: 30.00
Manila: 30.00
Cebu: 30.00
Iloilo: 30.00
Zamboanga: 30.00
Davao: 30.00
Cagayan: 30.00
Iligan: 30.00
Subic Bay: 30.00
Clark: 30.00
Baguio: 30.00

HK priests released after detention by Reds near Macao

Three Irish Jesuit Fathers from Hong Kong — Fathers Taylor, Cryan and Foley — were released yesterday by the Communist authorities after being detained for more than a week in Chinese territory near the Macao border.

The Fathers were on a visit to Macao and were seeing the sights when they inadvertently crossed the border into Chinese territory.

One of them carried a camera and had been taking photographs of Macao.

They were taken into custody by the Communists on April 11 and detained until yesterday. They are now back in Macao.

Australian warning on Malaya situation

Sydney, April 19.

Mr. Eric J. Harrison, the Australian Defence Minister, warned today that unless the Communist guerilla forces in Malaya were destroyed in the immediate future they "must add to their numbers by the sheer force of intimidation."

Mr. Harrison, who was speaking at a Press conference before his departure for Britain as Resident Australian Minister in London, said it was "completely fantastic" that British forces should not be in complete control of the Malayan terrain.

"Until we display the ruthlessness that was responsible for building the Empire in the early days, equalling the intensity of that shown by the guerilla forces, there can be no peace in the countries threatened by Communist infiltration," he declared.

Mr. Harrison said he proposed to make Britain realise that Australia's destiny was largely determined by geography.

If the Western powers recoiled from the Far East to any great extent, a resurgent Japan might well repeat its earlier performance.

"I will stress the need for a Pacific Pact in which I envisage a defensive military arrangement having its basis in the form of an agreement between countries that have a vital interest in the status quo in Asia and the Pacific, and which are capable of undertaking immediate commitment."

Mr. Harrison said this would require the closest co-operation between the United Kingdom and the United States.

"I believe that if the United Kingdom is not prepared to give a lead to the Dominions then the lead must certainly be taken up by the Dominions."

Mr. Harrison, who will continue as Defence Minister while he is Resident Minister in London for 12 months, said he would have talks with high military leaders in Britain.—Reuter.

Offensives against Huks in Luzon

Manila, April 19.

Government forces have launched two separate offensives in Central Luzon against the Communist-led Huk-balahaps.

One of the drives, according to the Department of National Defence, began yesterday in Pangasinan Province 100 miles to the North of Manila, where 20 Huks were reported killed in the first day's fighting. No Government losses were announced.

The other attack, which also began yesterday in another part of Pangasinan, produced three Huk deaths and a quantity of ammunition and foodstuffs captured. In this move, too, the Department reported no Government casualties.

In Manila, meanwhile, tension due to Huk threats to strike at the city had been "considerably reduced," authorities announced.

A battle that had been shrouded in some 50 miles from the capital still had not materialised. Following intense artillery bombardment of Huk positions, combat patrols were sent into the area but headquarters said today "they are still playing hide-and-seek with us."—Associated Press.

POLICE OFFICER INJURED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

Sub-Inspector Robertson, attached to Kowloon City police station, was injured when the motor-cycle he was riding collided with a military lorry in Salisbury Road about 4 p.m. yesterday.

Mr. Robertson was admitted to Kowloon General Hospital with injuries to his right knee and right ankle.

Russia gaining in arms race, U.S. official says

San Francisco, April 19.

Mr. Stuart Symington, Secretary for Air, today warned Americans that Russia was now capable of unleashing the world's largest army, air force and undersea fleet against the United States at a moment's notice.

In a speech here, he added that the Soviet Union was steadily widening its armaments advantage over the United States and her allies.

Mr. Symington, who is to give up his post shortly to become Chairman of the United States top security body, the National Security Resources Board, told the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce that Russia had been increasing her armed forces steadily since the end of the war.

Mr. Symington said the United States would have to consider "with equal concern" the following facts:

1. Behind the Iron Curtain there had been an atomic explosion.

2. Soviet air equipment was capable of delivering a surprise attack against any part of the United States.

3. The United States today had no adequate defence against such an attack.

"Those statements of fact show all too clearly that the Communist leaders in Russia are steadily widening their armaments advantage on the United States and its allies," he added.

Note endorsed

Morning newspapers in New York today endorsed the United States note to Russia on the shooting down of the Privates with even the "Daily News," which usually opposes the Government's foreign policy, calling it the "wisest move that could have been made under the circumstances," adds United Press.

The "Times" editorial said: "This incident, especially in view of the accompanying circumstances, is important not only because it involves American lives but because it betrays the depth of Soviet hostility even greater than might have been suspected."

"In these circumstances, while striving to do everything in its power to prevent a recurrence of such incidents, our Government can do no less than demand full satisfaction for a more lenient attitude encourage the Soviets to subject the American position to further similar test. We are convinced that the nation will support this stand."

The "Herald-Tribune" said: "Whatever the circumstances, the Russians have convicted themselves of recklessness, inhumanity and barbarity in international relations which cost 10 American lives, and deserves the stinging rebuke which had been lodged against them."

"Call their bluff"

The "Daily News" said: "This note takes the kind of language the Communist tyrants understand. Be polite to them and they think you are a weakling. It is the same if you try to appease them. Stand up to them and call their bluff and they at least will respect you as a man."

Mr. Pearson, Secretary of the Scottish Mineworkers Union, is a Communist. His address was an expression of his personal opinion and not the reflection of any resolution before the conference.

Mr. Pearson bluntly declared that the economic position of Britain was not good and that a crisis was rapidly developing. "With eighty per cent of industry privately owned, a policy of wage restraint while prices and profits continue to rise can bring nothing but disaster to the workers," he asserted.

Mr. Pearson underlined the hostility of 5,000,000 British trade unionists now actively opposing the wage freeze. He said that the fact that many important unions had decided to reject it was a clear indication that many millions of workers were entirely dissatisfied with the present position.

Critical audience

Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, today put over the "same again" budget he announced yesterday to his most critical audience—the Parliamentary Labour Party.

While the Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, looked on, the Chancellor "countered" criticism that his budget lacked "popularity" and would make no appeal to the housewife.

Some Labour Members expressed "disappointment" that they had nothing tangible to offer constituents if there is another General Election in the next few months.

But the majority of the meeting was willing to accept the Iron Cripps' economic logic.

The reaction of the Government's trade union following more than 5,000,000 of whom are now opposing the official wage freeze—has still to be tested.—Reuter.

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Shanghai police ask for pay cut

Officers and men of Shanghai's Whangpoo police station have joined a long list of labour organisations who have asked for a voluntary cut in pay, according to word from Shanghai which reached here yesterday.

Informants said that the police asked for a reduction in wages to "lighten the burden of the government in view of existing conditions." It was not known what was meant by "existing conditions."

(The Whangpoo station, one of the largest and most important police branches in Shanghai, recently underwent extensive indoctrination. Discussions on re-education, according to government policy, were also held.)

It was understood that the requested wage cuts would go into effect some time this month.

The police were reported to have asked that the savings in their wages be used toward relief or returned to the city treasury.

Several labour groups in the past have made similar requests "as a means to promote business and production," the informants added.—Associated Press.

Cholera in Calcutta

Calcutta, April 19.

Cholera took a toll of 272 lives in Calcutta last week—the highest cholera mortality figure in a week during the last 14 years—according to statistics released by the city corporation.

The number of attacks since January 23 when the disease was declared an epidemic totalled 3,334 of which 1,180 proved fatal. Medical experts said this year's epidemic would be more severe than that of 1948 when about 2,400 died of cholera.

The severity is stated to be due to the large influx of refugees from East Bengal and the shortage of altered water.

The city health officer today appealed to the people to get themselves inoculated.—Reuter.

KINLOCH SENTENCED TO 18 MONTHS

Singapore, April 19.

A Scottish rubber estate manager, Robert Kinloch, was today at the Assize Court at Kota Bharu, near the Thailand border, found guilty by the Assessor of causing the death, by a negligent act not amounting to culpable homicide, of a 22-year-old Malay girl, Eash Binte Ismail.

Justice F.A. Briggs concurred and sentenced Kinloch to 18 months rigorous imprisonment.—Reuter.

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CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor takes no responsibility for views expressed in letters by correspondents, and by no means necessarily agrees with them.

ALTERNATIVE ADDITIONAL TAXATION

Sir,—I enclose copy of a letter from the Reform Club of Hong Kong to the Financial Secretary, Hong Kong, on the subject of indirect taxation. You might like to print the letter in the correspondence column of your paper. Yours faithfully,
MERRIL WELDON,
Asst. Secretary.

Enclosure.
To the Hon. Financial Secretary,
Colonial Secretariat,
HONG KONG.

April 18, 1950.
Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that my Committee have had under consideration various problems associated with the recently presented draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Year ending 31st March 1951 and with particular reference to alternative schemes for additional taxation in preference to the much criticised plan for raising the standard rate for direct taxation by fifty per cent.

My Committee now request me to place before you the following suggestions which have been received from members of this Club in response to our appeal to the Public on the subject, with the request that you may kindly give them your careful consideration before finally deciding on the issues that have been raised since the introduction of the Budget.

The opinion has been expressed that the Colony's stated budget deficit for 1950-51 of eight millions could be more than covered by a tax on gold bar transactions as at present conducted in Hong Kong. Further, if Government agreed to free imports, such action would eliminate search duties and a consequent reduction of staff. The present position whereby gold is confiscated becomes a deplorable injustice to those unfortunate persons presently arriving in the Colony who manage to save something, and which is a force carried by the evidence in the form of fluctuating paper currency. Confiscation upon arrival in Hong Kong leaves the owner destitute and aggravates the problems inseparably associated with the heavy influx of refugees. The suggested tax is 50 cents per teel and if the Gold Exchange paid direct to Government, say quarterly, and recognized themselves as transactions were made, the cost of collection would be negligible. Such suggested levy of 50 cents may appear high but we are told that the smuggler's regular charge on all imports is \$2 per teel.

Most of our members regret the present unfavourable attitude of Government with regard to the institution of a Colony Lottery. They see no reason why it should not be at least as successful as in other parts of the Empire, and they will continue to press for its further consideration as a potential source of considerable profit to the Colony.

At the same time, I am requested to put forward a measure which would require the sanction of the Authority to the conduct of Football Pools, this yielding a large and easily collectible revenue to the British Government today, a recent press report indicating that the tax paid in England for the past year amounted to £2,400,000 (approximately six million dollars). It is estimated that, given Government's full support, the earnings in Hong Kong, based on the existing 30% tax in England, should result in a revenue of at least one million dollars during the football season of approximately six months, and the Military Forces would not doubt be strong supporters. In England the tax is paid direct to the Government by the Pool Syndicates, so there is no collection staff; the Post Office also benefits materially from the sale of postage stamps and money orders—this could be substituted in Hong Kong by having stamped entry forms, stamping being done by the Syndicates as entries are received.

Another suggestion that has received my Committee's attention is that Government might request the Jockey Club to increase the number of racing days, the present twenty-three to thirty per annum. This on the present basis, it is stated, would give Government an additional yearly revenue of about one and a half million dollars. My Committee understand that for some time past considerable difficulty has been and still is being experienced in procuring races for the various classes of ponies within reasonable intervals. We believe that where the Stewards were asked in General Meeting to increase the number of racing days, opinions were expressed that it would be unwise to alter types of sport, and that the Club should stick to the sport. To overcome this, and still produce the additional revenue, the seven additional race days could be Sundays. Opposition would no doubt be forthcoming, but it is doubtful if it could be strong enough to offset an easily earned one and a half million dollars. My Committee further advised that the Doncaster Racecourse, scene of the classic St. Leger, is run by the Municipal Council, for the benefit of rate-payers, the result being that the rates in that town are the lowest in England.

My Committee is fully alive to the necessity for avoiding any increase of taxation which would aggravate the present high cost of living problem, but we believe a judicious upward revision of existing duties on liquor, tobacco and cosmetics, also a sales tax on jewellery, could be considered with advantage and would be received with considerable acceptance. The contemplated increase of 50% in the direct standard rate, which latter my Committee, and we believe, public opinion regard as inequitable.

For the information of our members and the public I am sending a copy of this letter to the Press, with the hope that a response through the same medium may assist you in assessing public opinion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
BROOK BERNACCHI
Chairman
The Reform Club of
Hong Kong.

OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Sir,—May I, at the risk of provoking you to further editorial wrath, offer a few observations on your footnote to my letter of Saturday last and your editorial of the same day? Your footnote in which you contended that "the Debates in the House of Commons follow the same lines as in Hong Kong" has been completely dealt with by the Hon. M. M. Watson in your issue of Tuesday and one can only echo his hope that a change to render the Budget debates farcical will be effected before the 1951-52 Budget is presented; but unless that change involves the liquidation of the Official

majority, the probabilities are that the result will be the same as in former years—the passage of the Budget without amendment despite all protests and constructive criticism. A point which you apparently did not deem worthy of mention in your footnote is that although it is a fact that the Government at Home has the last say, and the omnipotent vote, that Government is elected and must be presumed to speak with the voice of the majority of the electors, whereas our Official members represent none but the local civil servants and, to do justice to many Government employees, not even all of those.

To turn to your editorial, your recommendations as to the manner in which reformation may be effected follow the same line of argument as the footnote mentioned above in that once again the all-important factor is erroneously avoided. You advise that a Party and draft a Programme of Action and Policy and place it before the electors and if elected, put it through. But, Mr. Editor, you ignore the fact that not only are we denied the privilege of electing but that nobody knows just who the electors are even likely to be. If you are competent to decide the latter point, you will not only earn the gratitude of the whole Colony but probably the Colonial Office, for this has been the most contentious point in all discussions upon the subject of constitutional reform.

You further argue that plans for reform exist and that a simple question in the House might evoke the reason of delay but surely, Mr. Editor, you must be aware that not only have questions repeatedly been put to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by Mr. G. G. D. Collins, M.P., and others, all equally without result in eliciting information as to whether the suggestions put forward have been or were being considered, but that so far as our local Government is concerned, from the date of presentation of the Petitions by the various public bodies until today, there has been a complete silence and for all that we know to the contrary, the Petitions may still be lying on the desk of some junior official of the Secretariat. I am sure that the public would be well informed of the progress of this very important phase in the development of the Colony but apparently the public which pays the piper is not deemed worthy even of that much consideration.

You castigate the Reform Club for what you are pleased to term the "unhappy" programme but can you honestly say that there is a single item in that programme, idealistic though it may seem, that is not normally enjoyed by the citizens of a competently governed community everywhere? To deny idealism and to brush aside the only programme put forward by any public body as being irresponsible, savours itself of irresponsibility. Any intelligent person reading the Reform Club's programme will be struck by the fact that it is ambitious but a little reflection will also show that it is not impossible of achievement. Neither, as I read it, was it intended that all the "wants" enumerated therein were to be satisfied by the wave of a wand. It is, as I understand it, a statement of aims to be achieved over a period and represents the goal toward which the Club intends to work. If, and when, elected representation is granted.

There was, moreover, despite your statement to the effect that there was not a single line to show how all this was to be paid for, a suggestion that the Pay-as-you-go Plan for income tax should be instituted and that its scope should be wide enough to include even the low income groups. Furthermore, if the suggestion made by the Hon. T. N. Chan, to the effect that paring of expenditure in relation to Government servants and unprofitable services would result in considerable savings, would the savings be put to the use of the Reform Club's "pie-in-the-sky" could be enjoyed at no greater expenditure than that which the taxpayer is today called upon to face.

Now, Mr. Editor, so far as you, personally, are concerned, there is one statement in your letter which I and, I hope, all your readers will refuse to believe. You say that you hold no brief either for the Government or for the Unofficials who, in the absence of elected representation, represent the public. Let me ask you just one question. For some time past there have been demands for the erection of a public library and with all power in hands of the officials, it is from them that the initiative for the creation of this extremely important civic amenity should come, but have they evinced any interest in such an undertaking? Bless you, not for them the Colonial Service List and a bankbook suffice to satisfy their literary needs. But, you, Mr. Editor, are you prepared to say that the question of whether or not the children of the Colony shall enjoy the literature which it was undoubtedly your privilege to enjoy, is of no moment to you? Are you prepared to any that you have no interest in the provision of adequate schooling for working children and that it is right that certain enlightened employers should, as they have done, be forced to assume the burden which by rights should be borne by Government? Are you prepared to say that you agree with the expenditure of many millions of dollars to house a very small percentage of Government servants whilst nothing at all has been done to introduce any low cost housing scheme, such as that which Singapore boasts, for the benefit of the low income groups? These, and many other considerations like them, are the points which are the principal sources of friction between the public and the officials, who have done, and will do, nothing to resolve them and I am sure that your readers will refuse to believe that you hold no brief for the under-privileged who suffer by reason of Government apathy. I think that for once I may claim to speak for all would-be reformers when I say that given honesty of purpose, a certain intelligence and, above all, a determination that Hong Kong shall remain a British Colony, and of course, freedom from Japanese, it matters little by whom we are represented in the legislature but whilst the interests of civil servants are made paramount to all others; whilst public servants are placed in a position which enables them to impose their will upon a public which has to foot the bill of their extravagances; and whilst even the representations of economy-minded Unofficials are given the "silent treatment" which Government accords all unpopular suggestions, the legislature will remain a farce; the Unofficials will be wasting valuable time in unprofitable "debate"; and the public will remain convinced that a change in the administrative set-up is very long over-due.

Yours faithfully,

The answer to the question is No.—Ed.

ART EXHIBITION CRITICISED

Sir,—"Omy Parce," the fleshy nose, these have long been the novelties of the artist's prerogative—a conception of art—Human nature being what it is, no doubt this conception will long linger in the minds of the adolescent. That pictorial products of this tradition should still be all that is held up as examples of modern Western painting, classic in derivation, is a significant comment on the mental level of a modern community. It is only too apparent in Hong Kong how the lowest in Western taste and ideas has imposed itself on a race which has behind it one of the world's greatest artistic traditions. The pretentious vulgarity with which so many Chinese people surround themselves in their daily life here is no happy reflection on a Western community which has been their mentor in a cultural transition as traumatic as any outwardly can only be seen as a disaster today. For an exhibition such as the one held at the Hong Kong Hotel yesterday, condoned as significant of Western painting, is nothing short of travesty and a denial of every canon of good taste and appreciation on the part of China or Westerners.

Yours etc.,
A. C. SCOTT.

(Continued at foot of next Col.)

Colonial office on accounting methods of DSD

A copy of a letter from the Colonial Office in reply to a despatch by the Governor of Hong Kong on matters raised by the Colony's Director of Audit in his report on the financial operations and accounting methods of the renamed Department of Supplies and Distribution was released yesterday.

In his report to the Director-General of Colonial Audit, the Hong Kong Director made a number of comments on the financial operations of the Department of Supplies and Distribution and on the authority exercised by the head of the Department regarding financial commitments.

The reply released yesterday was accompanied by copies of the Governor's original despatch and inter-departmental correspondence. The Colonial Office's reply stated:

"I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 48 of March 10, 1949, in which you dealt with the various matters raised by the Director of Audit, Hong Kong, in his report to the Director-General of Colonial Audit on the subject of the financial operations and accounting methods of the Department of Supplies and Distribution, now renamed the Department of Supplies and Distribution."

"I am aware of the very exceptional and difficult circumstances of the period immediately following the assumption of civil Government in Hong Kong in May 1946, and I note that you consider this to be the main reason for the failure then to secure my authority for the opening of Suspense Accounts, and other steps which followed inevitably from the decision to continue to operate the Supplies and Industries Department on a commercial basis. I have therefore decided, after consultation with the Director-General of Colonial Audit, to give general covering approval for the unauthorised departures from Colonial Regulations which have resulted and to which attention has been drawn in the report by the Director of Audit."

"I also agree exceptionally that the certificate of Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews as to the accuracy of the Profit and Loss Accounts of the various activities of the Department, which they are preparing, may be accepted as adequate."

Suspense accounts approved

"Having regard to the continuing exigencies of the world commodity and trading position, I agree that, for the present at least, the Department of Supplies and Distribution must continue its trading activities and be run largely on commercial lines."

"I therefore approve the maintenance of Suspense Accounts of proposed in paragraph 8 of the Memorandum by the Financial Secretary at enclosure 2 to your despatch and consider it unnecessary for the present in order to meet the objections raised by the Director of Audit to make any changes in the existing arrangements for financing trade with Japan."

"I also agree that the Director of Supplies and Distribution shall have general discretion subject to overall control by Government and within the limits of the Suspense Accounts to fix selling prices and decide the volume of his purchases."

"In view of the wide divergence from the orthodox regulation of public finance which these arrangements involve, I consider that their adoption should be subject to the concurrence of the Legislative Council."

"I note that the outstanding Profit and Loss Accounts will be submitted to the Legislative Council when completed and I consider that thereafter annual audited accounts and balance sheets should be similarly submitted."

"These accounts would, I assume, show the balances of the various Suspense Accounts and also reflect the transactions of the Department."

BUS CONDUCTORS

Sir,—As a passenger who travels more than twice a day in the Kowloon buses, I highly commend your excellent article on Tuesday about the bus conductors. I am sure this appreciation will be shared by many others who, perhaps through re-echoing of their own, have been mistreated. I have much patience and tolerance for human weaknesses, and know that the conductors have to bear with different temperaments and types, and have to work hard. I don't blame them for sometimes getting out of control, but to go round losing their tempers and stopping passengers in the wrong is uncalled for. It is gratifying that the Company is ready to discuss complaints whenever they are brought in.

Why not all play the game? Let's have more patience and tolerance from the conductors and drivers, and better understanding of their difficulties from the public. This, perhaps, may be a more realistic approach.

Yours etc.,
T. Y. PANG.

(This letter has been condensed.)

the four banking accounts mentioned in para. 13 of your despatch; copies of these accounts might with advantage be appended to the Colony's Annual Accounts.

"I should in any event wish copies of all relevant accounts to be forwarded to me as soon as they become available."

"I agree that copies of your despatch and of this reply should be laid before the Legislative Council."

Personalia

Messrs. M. Grosjean, Liang Tse-jang and Ho Wen-ping, were among the passengers who left by Air France yesterday for Hainan.

Departures from the Peninsula Hotel on Tuesday included: Mrs. S. G. O'Connell, Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Bunn, Miss E. P. Cory, Messrs. T. S. Chambers, L. T. Zee, D. C. Brown, W. G. Bawden, P. D. Hood, R. Walker, A. S. Mitchell, J. T. Reid, S. V. Gordon, R. W. S. Fears, P. G. Stead, C. D. Jack, P. G. Stead, and C. M. Vignoles.

Among the new arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel on Tuesday were Mrs. N. Scheurmer, Dr. and Mrs. K. R. E. Selby, Mrs. C. Hubbard, Mrs. L. Hower, Messrs. F. P. A. Edwards, E. J. Anderson, L. C. Hawkins, E. J. Anderson and L. Bewick.

Messrs. Lee Keng-huei, Ng Chor-ting, M. R. Bluestone and S. Riva left for Bangkok yesterday by CPA.

Messrs. M. Knott, Yoo Thiam-in and Bong Koet-din, arrived in Hong Kong from Singapore yesterday by CPA.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Neill, Mr. and Mrs. Colman, Miss Maria da Costa, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Morley, Mr. and Mrs. J. Storey, Mr. and Mrs. T. Low, Miss B. E. Low, Mrs. J. Sawant, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Abern, Miss Abern, Messrs. R. R. Spill, L. Bewick and A. Falconer, were among those who arrived here from Hainan yesterday by the S. S. Hainan.

Mr. F. B. Bieri will speak on "Some Activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross" at the weekly luncheon of the Hong Kong Rotary Club on Tuesday.

NCB promises in Canton requisitioned

The National City Bank of New York's premises in Canton have been requisitioned by the Chinese Communists. The "China Mail" learned yesterday.

The occupants of the building—Chinese employees of the Standard Oil Company—were ordered to move out with their possessions more than a week ago.

Whether the requisitioning was carried out by the civil or military authorities was not ascertainable in Hong Kong yesterday.

The National City Bank of New York did not resume operations in Canton following the end of the war. The three apartments in the building were let out to Chinese employees of the Standard Oil Company.

The tenants were told by the Chinese caretaker of the building that the premises were being taken over by the Chinese Communists and were advised by him to move out.



Military asked to release hospital for civilian use

An appeal to the Military Authorities to release the Matilda and War Memorial Hospital to relieve the present acute shortage of hospital accommodation for the civilian population, was made by Mr. J. R. Jones, chairman, at the first annual general meeting of the Hospital.

Mr. Jones said that it was clearly understood at the time of the requisition in July last, that the hospital would be released in six months' time.

Reviewing the circumstances which led to the amalgamation of the Matilda Hospital and the War Memorial Nursing Home in October last, and efforts made to restart the hospital before the requisition by the Military Authorities, Mr. Jones said: "With the phasing of the Matilda and War Memorial Hospital Ordinance in October 1949, the Matilda Hospital established under the Will and Codrill of Granville Sharp and the War Memorial Nursing Home ceased to exist as such and became merged in a single corporation in the Matilda and War Memorial Hospital.

"From its very foundation the War Memorial Nursing Home had been closely related to the Matilda Hospital. It had throughout been beset with financial difficulties. Without the generous contributions from the estate of Granville Sharp, which by 1941 had exceeded \$1,000,000, the Nursing Home could not have been built or maintained and it had two wards named after Granville Sharp and his wife Matilda dedicated to the same purposes as the Matilda Hospital.

"At the end of the war both the Hospital and the Nursing Home were found to be extensively damaged and looted. The Nursing Home was left without enough money for rebuilding and re-equipment even after the sale of its damaged premises to the Royal Navy. As for the Matilda Hospital the conditions obtained after the war rendered it impractical to carry out the original purpose of the trust and it was estimated that to continue its operation on its old basis would lead to the complete exhaustion of its funds within fifteen years.

Only solution

"The only solution to the problem confronting the trustees was found to be in the amalgamation of the two institutions, but the legal difficulties arising out of the two trusts proved so formidable that the sanction of Government had to be obtained to the enactment of a private Bill by which the present hospital was incorporated in substitution for its predecessors combining in its name the distinctive elements of the two original foundations. The property and assets of both were vested in the new hospital to be administered as far as possible and subject to the provisions of the Ordinance with a view to ensuring the continuance of the objects for which the original Matilda Hospital and the War Memorial Nursing Home had been instituted.

"In the meantime the trustees of the Matilda Hospital had been occupied in repairing, adapting and equipping the hospital for future work at the expense of approximately \$1,000,000. With the advice of Dr. Montgomery, former Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, they had, in the face of the long delay in the delivery of medical equipment and stores, achieved a stage at which they could contemplate the opening of the hospital at an early date after the solution of the legal difficulties attending its amalgamation with the Nursing Home. They had been fortunate in securing the services as Matron of Miss Townsend who had for many years before the war served in the hospital and in the summer of 1949 she went to England with the view of engaging qualified nursing sisters.

"In the beginning of July 1949, however, the hospital was requisitioned for the use of the military forces which had arrived for the protection and defence of the Colony.

"While the paramount needs of the Army Medical Services until suitable alternative accommodation could be obtained were fully recognized, it was hoped that the necessity of relieving as quickly as possible the acute shortage of hospital accommodation for the civilian population which had troubled since 1941 would also be realized.

"In these circumstances it was clearly understood that the Matilda Hospital would be released in six months. The lack of hospital amenities particularly for the community for whom the Matilda Hospital and the War Memorial Nursing Home made provision before the war is now generally admitted. It is anxiously hoped that despite the many difficulties the authorities concerned will see their way to relieve the present position by the early release of the Matilda and War Memorial Hospital.

Bright outlook

"A great deal of work remains to be done in structural alterations to the hospital and its equipment and re-organization of the hospital. Although plans are being made for the future, it will not be possible to make

much progress or to proceed to engage the necessary medical and nursing staff until an indication of the release of the hospital premises is given.

"The outlook for the hospital, however, is bright. Its financial position is sound and its funds are conserved in the principle that they must be kept as an endowment and that the hospital should be self-supporting and maintained from the income from its investments and from patients who are able to pay. The constitution provides that patients of limited means may be under the conditions formerly applicable to the Matilda Hospital be admitted and their expenses paid either in whole or in part from the income from the invested funds of the hospital up to half the in-patients accommodation of the hospital.

"In order to enable the hospital to make such provision for patients of limited means and to ensure that it need not trench upon its capital, it will be essential not only to maintain its endowment funds unimpaired but also to take every opportunity of adding to them.

"The merger of the funds of the two original foundations and the re-organization and re-equipment of the hospital should enable it to provide accommodation and treatment in accordance with the highest modern standards of efficiency and comfort.

Trustees praised

"In undertaking the administration of the hospital the Board of Governors desire to acknowledge their indebtedness to the work of the trustees of both of the original foundations and particularly to Sir Arthur Moore who was a trustee of both and whose inspiration and persistent efforts the achievement of the amalgamation of the two institutions was largely due.

"As soon as the hospital premises are released it will be a matter of gratification to take up in earnest the work to which we have been looking forward with eagerness and hope, that of restoring and extending the hospital service which has been so sadly and regrettably lacking since the Colony emerged from the ordeals of war.

"At a special meeting following the Annual General Meeting, Mr. J. R. Jones was elected Chairman, and Mr. C. D. Slade, Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year. The meeting, which was held in the Board Room of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was attended by Mr. J. R. Jones, (Chairman), Mr. C. D. Slade, (Deputy Chairman), Mr. E. W. Roberts, Mr. C. H. Bishop, Mr. D. M. Nicholson, Mr. A. G. Clarke, Dr. J. W. Anderson, Dr. H. Falbot, and Mr. J. B. Hart, (representing Post Marwick Mitchell and Company, Secretaries). Rev. Stevenson and Rev. George She were absent.

LEAVE IN JAPAN FOR HK TROOPS

"Negotiations are proceeding between British officials and American authorities in Japan to allow Hong Kong garrison troops to take two-week holidays in Japan.

An army spokesman said yesterday that nothing definite had yet been decided. The plan calls for servicemen, in groups of 100, to spend periodic holidays in Japan.

Luna Park burglar gets 15 months' hard

Ho Si-yiu was sentenced to 15 months' hard labour after he was found guilty of the \$15,000 Luna Park burglary when hearing ended yesterday before Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central.

Defendant was arrested in Macao following police investigation into the burglary in Luna Park on January 2.

More than \$12,000 in cash was found when defendant was searched after his arrest in the Portuguese Colony. He was also in possession of some gold jewellery alleged to have been purchased with the proceeds of the theft.

Mr. Hin-shing Lo in his judgment said that he had found the evidence of Inspector Koh Hin-thong most conclusive. Inspector Koh stated in his evidence that the fingerprints he found on the broken window pane (which gave access to the office of Mr. Frank Gray, where the money was stolen) corresponded with those of defendant.

He submitted that his judgment was based on the evidence of the witnesses and the fingerprints found on the window pane.

Foreign YMCA in Shanghai expensive

Living in the Foreign YMCA in Shanghai has become prohibitive, according to word received here from the Northern city.

One source writes that many residents of the YMCA are moving to the plush Park Hotel next door, which is comparatively cheaper. Owing to the strength of labour in Shanghai, the Foreign YMCA is forced to retain its 250 servants of all categories, which works out to about one employee per member. This expense on top of taxes—JMP71,000,000 for land tax—makes higher membership and rentals imperative.

For the price of one month's rent for one room at the YMCA, the Park Hotel offers a two-room suite with all modern fittings plus service.

Reminders

Today

HK Stage Club presents "Gaslight" at China Fleet Club theatre, 9 p.m.

Kowloon Rotary Luncheon, Peninsula Hotel, 12.30 p.m.

Y's Men's Club, luncheon, Roof Garden, HK Hotel, 12.45 p.m.

HK International Women's Club, Whist Drive for Services, 7.30 p.m.

Nine Dragons Service Club, HK Band Call, 8 p.m.

HK Union Church, Ladies Guild meeting 3 p.m.

Coming events

TOMORROW

Organ Recital, St. John's Cathedral, 1.15 p.m.

Nine Dragons Services Club, Tombola, 8 p.m.

HK Stage Club presents "Gaslight" at China Fleet Club theatre, 7.30 p.m.

SATURDAY

HK Stage Club presents "Gaslight" at China Fleet Club theatre, 9 p.m.

Nine Dragons Services Club, Tombola, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

HK Art Club, sketching party to Shatin, members to meet at Kowloon Star Ferry, 10.30 a.m.

Toe of classical concert, 50, Macdonnell Road, 8.30 p.m.

Nine Dragons' Services Club, Tombola, 8 p.m.

European YMCA Armchair Group meeting, talk on "Public Relations" by Mr. Gordon Harman, 8.45 p.m.

REDS BAN IMPORTS OF CAUSTIC SODA

Imports of caustic soda to Tientsin have been banned "because of over-production" there, a report from Shanghai said yesterday.

Caustic soda is a basic ingredient in the manufacture of soap. The order was issued by the China Communist Trade Ministry. It warned merchants that "transshipments of caustic soda cargo from Shanghai to Tientsin will be ordered returned to the port of origin."

The authorities now have declared illegal all sales of imported caustic soda in Tientsin, the report added.—Associated Press.



From left to right, David Lee, Joseph Woo and Yeung Yiu-wing, Talkoo Dockyard apprentices who have won scholarships for training in Britain.

Engineering apprentices win scholarships for training in Britain

Three engineering apprentices have won the Talkoo Dockyard and Engineering Company's 1950-51 scholarship for training in Great Britain.

Two of the boys were formerly educated at St. Joseph's College and Wah Yan College.

The three winners are 20-year-old David Lee, 24-year-old Joseph Woo and 24-year-old Yeung Yiu-wing.

Yeung has been awarded the Talkoo 1950 Scholarship for two years; David Lee has won the 1950 Scholarship for two years and Joseph Woo has been awarded this 1950 special Scholarship for one year.

The Scholarships are open to all Talkoo Dockyard apprentices who have worked for three to four years in the Dockyard.

Although the normal Scholarship is for two years, an additional Special Scholarship for one year has been awarded for 1950 to enable two of the apprentices to be in Britain together.

Yeung Yiu-wing and Joseph Woo will leave for Britain in June, and David Lee will join Yeung in 1951.

The Scholarships will provide for travelling expenses, board, lodging, clothing, technical college tuition fees and pocket money.

In Scotland

During their stay in Britain, the apprentices will obtain practical experience at one of the big shipbuilding and engineering establishments in Scotland. Their technical training will be supplemented by suitable courses at a college.

Yeung was born in Hong Kong and educated at the Hong Kong Government Junior Technical College. His ambition was to become a mechanical engineer. He prefers ship work and aspires to become a marine engineer. His father is a Food Control Officer in the Hong Kong Government.

David Lee studied at St. Joseph's College, at Macao, and at Hong Kong's Wah Yan College. His father, now dead, was a draftsman at Talkoo for 20 years. David prefers yard work and hopes to become a marine or mechanical engineer.

Supplementary provision approved

Legislative Council yesterday approved the additional supplementary provision for the fourth quarter of the financial year ended March 31, 1950.

Explaining the larger items, the Financial Secretary, Mr. C. G. S. Follows, said there were two special warrants for HK\$1,000,000 and \$250,000 respectively in respect of the filling of stocks of clothing and equipment supplied to the Defence Force. This kind of equipment is based on a larger and more elaborate establishment than the one finally decided upon for the Force, and a certain amount has since been returned.

Another item of HK\$1,000,000 is in respect of loans made from of interest to three grant-aided schools, St. Mary's and the Diocesan Boys' and Girls' Schools. The loans will enable these schools to make several desirable additions to their buildings, including a gymnasium. They are to be repaid over a period of 10 years.

Finally there is a special warrant for HK\$5,000,000 which will be used to provide supplementary payment to the public works employees who were employed on the public works during the period of the war. The amount is to be paid over a period of 10 years.

Increased rentals in NT

Some landlords in the New Territories have revised their rentals upwards, but there is no substantial evidence that the increased rentals demanded are exorbitant, said an official statement yesterday.

Increase of rentals is in part due to the fact that any rentals were very low, and with the increased demand for vegetables and the good profits being made from their sale, it is natural that landlords should expect a greater return on their land, it was added.

Many landlords want to take advantage of the good return on vegetable land by cultivating or managing their own fields, and there are some landowners who wish to settle on the land some of their relatives evacuated from China.

Tenancy agreements concluded during or just after the Japanese occupation of the Colony are expiring or are due for revision. The vast majority of the paddy lands cultivated by native New Territories villagers is not affected by any of these changes.

Careful investigations have failed to uncover a single case of rack-renting or of renting to a new tenant for a higher rent, concluded the statement.

Omnibus Bill has first reading

An omnibus Bill, which seeks to amend 32 separate Ordinances, was read a first time in Legislative Council yesterday.

The Bill, entitled an Ordinance to make amendments to miscellaneous Ordinances for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of the revised edition of the laws, contains amendments which are of a relatively unimportant character, explained the Attorney-General, Mr. J. B. Griffith, who introduced it in Council.

The necessity for each amendment has been seen or noted over the past year or two. In addition there are amendments which have been found to be necessary or desirable in the course of the work of revising the laws as a whole, a work which is now actively proceeding.

Authority for dealing with so many subjects in one Bill is given by section 6 of the Revision of the Law Ordinance 1948.

KAI TAK TOPICS

The Chinese Air Force in Taiwan has recently enforced a new flying regulation for aircraft approaching Taipei, capital city of the Nationalist-held island.

The new regulation calls for all planes approaching Taipei to avoid flying over the area from a position crossed by 121 degrees and 22 minutes East Longitude and 24 degrees and 55 minutes North Latitude, North and Northward to Taipei River thence North Westward up the river to the coast and thence South Westward along the coastline, three miles off shore to a point near 120 degrees and 20 minutes East Latitude.

If flyers approach Taipei on instrument flying the CAE warns them to navigate with care so as to avoid approaching the specified restricted area.

A woman passenger would have missed her aircraft yesterday afternoon if the Kai Tak staff of the Pan American World Airways had not called back the PAA plane which was to take her to Bangkok.

Originally on schedule to leave for Bangkok at 3.15 p.m., the PAA aircraft tied up from Kai Tak's passenger terminal at about 10 minutes, to three failing to pick up the woman passenger who, at that time, had not yet arrived at the airport.

When the passenger came at about 3 p.m., PAA ground crew members had to call back the aircraft and let the woman passenger on. By that time the aircraft was warming up her engines ready to get air-borne.

An out-going Pan American World Airways aircraft left here yesterday about 20 minutes earlier than its schedule time.

According to an airport official of the aviation company, the plane had to advance the time of her departure for fear of arriving late at Bangkok, her destination.

He also explained that on Wednesday Bangkok closes its airport earlier than usual time.

Three China National Aviation Corporation DC-4-type aircraft at Kai Tak had their wings, stabilisers and engines dismantled recently.

One of the aircraft was the XT-11, the aircraft which was most severely damaged when seven CNAC aircraft were sublogged three weeks ago. Another dismantled aircraft has been painted with a coating of black paint.

The Central Air Transport Corporation has recently erected numerous lamp posts around its airport working areas in order to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises under cover of darkness.

The lamp posts are erected about 30 feet apart along a rope which cordons off the working areas.

Beside the lamp posts, warning signs have also been installed within the areas, advising unauthorised persons to keep away from the area and authorised persons to produce their identity cards.

SHANGHAI EVACUATION

A Royal Navy spokesman said yesterday that a dispatch agency despatch stating that the Royal Navy had resumed negotiations with Shanghai officials for the evacuation of foreign nationals from that city was not true.

He added that the despatch probably referred to a Royal Navy announcement of two weeks ago, before the Butterfield and Swire ship, as Aiking, sailed its attempt to carry out a Shanghai evacuation.

The case against private W. J. Dingwall, Chatham Road Camp, Bombardier G. Rodham, 14th Field Regiment, Shek Kong Camp, charged with assaulting a bus conductor, was dismissed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Kowloon yesterday, when complainants failed to turn up in court.

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MacARTHUR SAYS:

JAPAN SHOULD BE THE SWITZERLAND OF EAST

Pleasantville, New York, April 18.
Japan should be the Switzerland of the Far East and remain neutral in any future war, General MacArthur was quoted as saying in an exclusive interview with J. P. McEvoy appearing in the May issue of the "Reader's Digest".
Mr. McEvoy quoted General MacArthur as declaring that though a peace treaty with Japan is long, long overdue the country should not be rearmed.

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

Washington, April 18.
President Harry Truman and Mr. Dean Acheson offered assurances today that the Republican Party will be kept informed and their views solicited in an effort to establish a true bipartisan foreign policy.

In a statement issued after calling Senator Styles Bridges, Republican of New Hampshire, to the White House for an unusual conference, Mr. Truman declared: "With the problems facing the United States in the field of foreign relations, it is most important that every effort be made to maintain a true bipartisan foreign policy."

Mr. Bridges was summoned to restore true bipartisan support for foreign policy came when Mr. Bridges emerged from his White House conferences with Mr. Truman and Mr. Acheson.

Mr. Bridges was summoned to the White House as the senior Republican in point of service in the absence of Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan, who is ill.

He had the impression that Mr. Truman and Mr. Acheson plan to meet Republican leaders from time to time to acquaint them more intimately with foreign relations.—Associated Press.

Munich, April 18.
Two unidentified Russian officers, driving a German car, illegally crossed the Soviet zonal border at Hof, Bavaria, last night into the American Zone, according to a report quoted by United States High Commission officials here tonight.—Reuter.

General MacArthur continued "Seven million laborers will not give up what they have won without a desperate struggle. Many of the old crowd are dead, others will be gone in 10 years—and all of them and their works have been thoroughly discredited. The Japanese have not only lost their war but have lost confidence in their former way of life. It is hard to think that those leaders or their doctrines would ever rise again."

On the question of Communism, General MacArthur said, "The Japanese will never accept Communism. It spells Russia to them—and if there is one thing the Japanese know, hate and fear it is Russia."

When the Japanese repatriated from Russia ignored their families and marched to the Communist headquarters, the Japanese people were first shocked beyond

The Supreme Commander told Mr. McEvoy, "Japan cannot possibly raise an Army or Air Force large enough to protect herself. Besides, the raising of armed forces would attract rather than dissuade aggression. Japan should be the 'Switzerland of the Far East' and neutral for the same reasons that Switzerland is neutral—no matter which side she might join she would be inevitably destroyed."

On the question of the need for a peace treaty, General MacArthur said, "The Japanese have fully and faithfully observed their surrender commitments. They have disarmed, demobilized and established a peaceful democratic regime."

According to Mr. McEvoy, General MacArthur expressed the belief that the historians of the future will devote more space to the subject of "How freedom and democracy were brought to the Far East by the United States" than to World War II itself.

Asked what would happen after the Occupation ends, General MacArthur said, "If we moved out tomorrow and any group tried to restore the old conditions they would be hanged as traitors. Millions of farmers who for the first time own their own little farms will fight for their land as our own farmers would fight."

Old crowd out of picture

Cleveland, Ohio, April 18.
Bishop Arthur Moore of Atlanta, Georgia, today protested against what he called the abandonment of China.

Bishop Moore recently returned from a South East Asian tour. He said, "American influence in Chinese affairs is ended for the time being."

Deploping an Asia dominated by Russia, Bishop Moore said it would be as sad a case as Europe dominated by Russia.

He praised the work of General Douglas MacArthur, who had transformed Japan from a floundering country into a peaceful nation and made it an American beachhead against Soviet Russia.—United Press.

Saucers Again
Melbourne, April 18.
Flying saucers were reported over the Perth skies tonight.

Residents of Perth decided that what they saw—a large ball, orange red, flying at high speed—travelled faster than a plane.—United Press.

Singapore Blaze
Singapore, April 18.
The death toll of the Puloo-Sambore oil blaze rose to seven today but all 10 seamen reported missing from the tanker, Lingula, were accounted for.

A European crewman, J. Riborough, who was injured when the fire broke out on the Lingula on Monday and spread to dockside storage tanks, died in hospital on Monday night.

Earlier, two other European and four Indonesian members of the crew had died.

Oil from the storage tank is still burning furiously, sending up billows of black smoke. Firefighters said the blaze might take several days to burn itself out.—United Press.

General wants Australians in Malaya

Sydney, April 18.
Lieutenant-General Henry Gordon Bennett, who commanded the Australian Imperial Force's Eighth Division in Malaya in 1941, declared tonight that Australian troops should be in Malaya now.

It is better, to fight the Communists there than on Australian shores, he said.

Special Commandos should be trained in Australia and then sent to Malaya for further training, he said.—Reuter.

SHAH APPROVES ROMANCE

Rome, April 18.
Princess Fatima of Persia announced happily today that her brother the Shah has approved of her new American husband.

The beautiful 22-year-old Princess said she and Vincent Lee Hillier will wed again in a week or 10 days in Paris—this time in a Moslem mosque—and that the Shah will bless the wedding.

Hillier, 25-year-old California University graduate of Los Angeles, California, confirmed that all has been forgiven.

"It was a mix-up anyway," he grinned. "But boy, are we relieved."

He said the Shah apparently gave in after learning that an Islamic ceremony is to take place "just as soon as we can arrange it."

The Shah stripped his sister of all royal prerogatives last week after she married Hillier in a surprise civil ceremony near Rome.

Speaking in the bridal suite of Rome's Excelsior Hotel, the Princess said: "I'm extremely happy. I'm a religious person and I do so want everything to be all right."

Princess Fatima added that she had talked by telephone with Teyheran in the past few hours and received word of the Shah's change of heart.

"Permission for the Moslem wedding has been granted. We have my brother's blessing and we are off to a splendid start," she added.—Associated Press.

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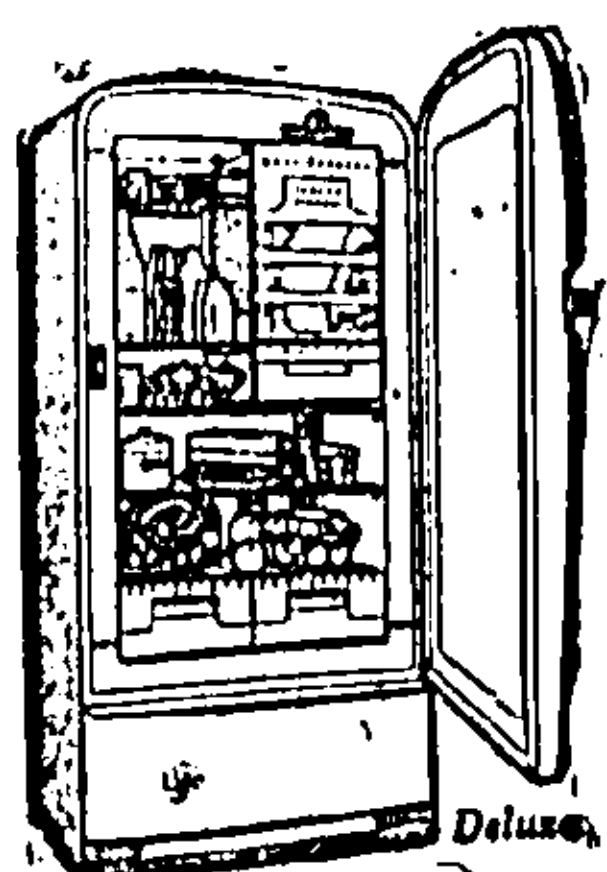
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ENGINEERING PAGE

PETROLEUM TRANSPORT BY SEA

Before the invention of special types of ships, the transport of petroleum by sea was considered to be highly dangerous. The first cargo of oil to cross the Atlantic from the U.S. was carried in England in wooden barrels, in the 224-ton brig *Elizabeth Watts*, in 1861.

Owing to the special precautions considered necessary to ensure safe stowage and the difficulty in obtaining labour to handle so dangerous a cargo, loading operations occupied several weeks.

Soon, the export of petroleum from the U.S. developed into a regular trade, and in 1864 nearly 32 million gallons of oil were shipped across the Atlantic in wooden barrels.

But this form of container was uneconomical as well as laborious, so an attempt was made to carry oil in bulk in the holds of wooden ships lined with cement or felt and divided into compartments by wooden bulkheads; this was so unsafe that for a time the owners reverted to the carriage of oil in cases or barrels.

Soon, however, it was being carried in bulk in large iron tanks fitted into the cargo holds.

The sailing ship *Charles* of 784 tons, was probably the first to be converted to carry petroleum in this way across the Atlantic; she had 50 iron tanks, each of about 13 tons capacity, and traded between the United States and Europe from 1869 to 1872.

As time went on, a smaller number of large tanks was used, until finally this type of petroleum carrier was provided with only one large tank in each hold. In the meantime, in 1893, an iron sailing ship of 148 feet long was designed to carry petroleum in bulk without the aid of casks, this was the *Atlantic* launched at St. Petersburg, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and in 1872 the *Vaderland*, a steam-driven bulk oil carrier of 2,748 tons was built at Jarrow-on-Tyne. There are, however, no records that either of these ships was used for the purpose for which it was constructed.

In 1885 the *Gluckauf*, the first oil-tanker, was specially designed. The ship's hull served as a receptacle for the oil in bulk; she was 300 feet long, had a tonnage of 2,307 gross tons, and was propelled by triple-expansion steam engines.

For some time, however, the oil-carrying ship continued to be regarded as a potential danger, and elaborate precautions were taken before the first tanker was allowed to pass through the Suez Canal. This was the *Murex* which in 1893 sailed from West Hartlepool to Batoum to load a cargo of oil and then passed

through the canal on her way to Singapore and Bangkok. Since those early days, oil tankers have increased greatly in size, and are now regularly seen in almost every port. At the beginning of 1940 there were 1,872 ocean-going vessels of 2,000 gross tons and over, with a gross tonnage of 15,450,000 tons of 25,810,000 tons deadweight (i.e. carrying capacity).

Eleven to sixteen thousand tons deadweight are now the most common size, though many are larger. Recently tankers of a capacity up to 30,000 tons d.w. have come into commission.

The first oil-carrying oil tankers were coal-fired, these later gave place to oil-fired steamers, but today the tendency is increasingly towards motor-driven oil tankers. It is interesting to note that the first motor ship of a kind to be built for ocean-going service was the *Vulcanus*, an oil tanker which was ordered as long ago as 1909. These changes have tended to make tankers both more economical and faster and many have a speed of 14 to 15 knots.

The outstanding feature of a tanker is the placing of the engines and funnel aft as this obviates the necessity for having an oil-tight propeller shaft, and the cargo is isolated from the engine-room and from the fore part by cofferdams, which are narrow spaces, about three feet in width, extending right across the ship.

There is no need to go fully into all the developments that have since taken place except to say that in 1908 the *Isherwood* system of construction introduced what may be called the modern tanker. This was a revolutionary step forward and was based on the longitudinal system of framing (instead of vertical framing similar to the ribs in a rowing boat) which made for great strength and increased carrying capacity. There have been further developments of this system and incidentally, the system has been copied throughout the world.

The entire cargo space is divided

up into approximately nine main tanks and these are subdivided by two longitudinal bulkheads, which virtually makes 27 separate oil-tight tanks.

There are usually two pump rooms whose cargo pumps are connected to each cargo tank and also to deck discharges by a system of pipe-lines, the flow of oil being directed to or from the different compartments by opening or shutting valves situated throughout the entire system.

The ship's cargo pumps are used to discharge cargo through large rubber hoses joining the deck pipe-lines to connections ashore, while the cargo is normally pumped aboard by shore pumps. A modern tanker can load at a very rapid rate of over 1,000 tons per hour with almost no labour.

When a tanker has discharged her cargo and before proceeding to sea, some of her cargo tanks are filled with sea water to make the vessel seaworthy. Tankers have exceptional seaworthiness, since the division of the hull into water-tight compartments to contain the oil gives them greater strength and buoyancy than is possessed by ordinary merchant ships.

On more than one occasion, a tanker, which has been cut in two by torpedo, mine or collision, has had its two parts safely brought into port to be joined together again to return to the oil-carrying trade with its efficiency in no way impaired.

Speed and engines have improved tremendously in the last few years, and the design of the vessel and the stringent safety precautions imposed reduce the peace-time fire risk to negligible proportions. Tankers are classed as "clean" or "dirty" according to whether they carry "white oils" such as motor spirit and kerosene, or "black oils" such as crude or fuel-oil.

A "dirty" tanker can be made "clean" by a careful cleansing process. These have no other meaning. The crew accom-

modation aboard modern tankers is among the cleanest and best to be found in merchant ships. The most modern tankers even provide separate accommodation for every member of the crew. A 12,000 ton tanker would carry a crew of about 12 officers and 30 to 40 hands.

During the war, one of the most dangerous places for all ships was the "Atlantic Gap," where air cover could not be provided from the shore. Although naval aircraft carriers could have closed the gap, these were too scarce to be provided in the numbers required. The solution was found in the conversion of suitable merchantmen into Merchant Aircraft Carriers — "MAC ships."

For this purpose, oil-tankers were ideal, since they carried no derricks for handling cargo and had little superstructure to impede the provision of a flight-deck; moreover, tankers could always sail in loaded trim, whether with cargo or ballast. Several oil-tankers were thus converted, thereby serving the dual purpose of transporting oil and making possible the provision of air cover for themselves and for the rest of their convoy.

Before the last war, the British Empire and Commonwealth had the largest tanker fleet in the world, with 3,264,241 gross tons; the U.S. fleet was the next largest, with 2,800,780 gross tons. At the time of the war, British tankers, coupled with the large U.S. building programme of this type of vessel, have substantially altered the pre-war position, but British shipyards are busily engaged in restoring the British tanker fleet.

By the beginning of 1948, it was already larger than in 1939, amounting to 3,467,000 gross tons, with a carrying capacity of over 5,000,000 tons deadweight. Since then it has grown still larger, and many more ships are on order, especially in British shipyards where tankers account for roughly half of all ships ordered or building.

Scientific development in new products

Quite understandably, in preparing to show at a great trade fair side by side with their competitors, industrialists are more than a little chary of saying too much in advance of the wares they plan to exhibit.

But I have been privileged to take a peep into the secrets of some of the manufacturers who will be displaying their products at the British Industries Fair.

Since last year's Fair United Kingdom manufacturers have been pondering on the lessons they learned from the overseas buyers they met. Many of them followed up contacts and talks with world buyers at last year's Fair by sending representatives abroad to study market requirements at first hand.

These men came back to Britain brim-full of ideas and enthusiasm for "giving the customer what he wants" from plastic chop-sticks for the Far East to bright North American style ties for the sunnier lands of the British Commonwealth.

Take two extremes of something all boys respond to, railways, the real and the toy. At the Fair there will be a new scientific instrument to serve the former and a striking new development of the latter.

The first is a self-contained recording instrument for use at line-side to record the speed of trains. Battery operated, it can be set up at any selected position, and will show on a chart the actual speed of the train at the time of passing the recording point. Now that's a useful piece of equipment for the world's railways.

Plastic train set

The makers of a new plastic mechanical train set, to be shown in the Toys and Games section at Olympia claim that their products are indestructible. The train set incorporates, say the manufacturers, a new patented plastic mechanism believed to be the only one of its kind in the world. And except for the steel spring of the engine, even the clockwork mechanism is itself plastic. The rails are plastic too, and a grown up man is quite welcome to stamp on them heavily, say the makers, without fear of damage. The firm is also proud of a patent system of interlocking the rail joints, and the generally handsome appearance of this railroad in miniature.

It may seem a far cry from fighting aircraft to the manufacture of beebot barrels, but not for a Birmingham firm who has been thinking of customers in the hot-set and most humid climates. So, after long experiment, an oak beebot barrel, made on the process of the famous Montgolfier, has been produced which is indestructible, will neither warp

nor crack whatever the climatic conditions. An entirely new patented process has been employed for the manufacture of this product, which is finished in electro-plate nickel silver.

Another firm, of London this time, has been perfecting for ex-

By Phyllis Davies

hibition a portable short-wave diathermy weighing only 38 to 40 pounds, which has a great output and is designed not to cause interference with radio or television. Like all this firm's apparatus, it is finished to withstand extremes of climate, and will be of great practical value for hospital ward work and for doctors and other practitioners treating patients in their homes.

Since the last Fair a well known piano manufacturing company has been conducting research to enhance the tonal qualities of a new grand piano/forte. It has designed. The instrument is only 5 feet 3 inches in length, and the makers claim that it has the volume and quality of tone usually found only in much larger instruments. Thus concert hall performance is possible for the modern small flat.

High speed communicating system

In this connection, there is another space saving innovation in furnishing in a new type of studio couch, or bed settee, which by a single movement can be converted from a couch into a comfortable bed.

Among developments in office equipment there will be on show a 20-way intercommunicating sys-

tem so designed that several conversations can be carried on at the same time in complete privacy. The equipment is a main operated automatic amplifier control unit with 20 identical sub-units contained in neat cabinets measuring only six inches by five inches and four inches deep.

Then there is a pocket-size adding machine, which will subtract as well as add, and weighs only three ounces. Made of a rustless metal alloy, it has a mirror finish and is contained in a leather-type wallet.

The machine has been specially designed for countries using the metric system, or for dollars, francs, rupees, or sterling, and will add or subtract from zero to 9,999,999.99, with no wheels or springs to become broken or displaced.

A further contribution to labour-saving in modern office work is a dual feed device for electric typewriters, for the simultaneous writing of two different records. Line finding is automatic.

Among other new products is a fully automatic paper punching machine which, needs no skilled operator. It punches 300-400 inches of paper per hour on any standard or special type of punch in an ever-moving line, in which there is no possibility of sheets becoming displaced.

For photo process work there is an all metal dark-room precision colour camera, which the makers believe will attract considerable interest.

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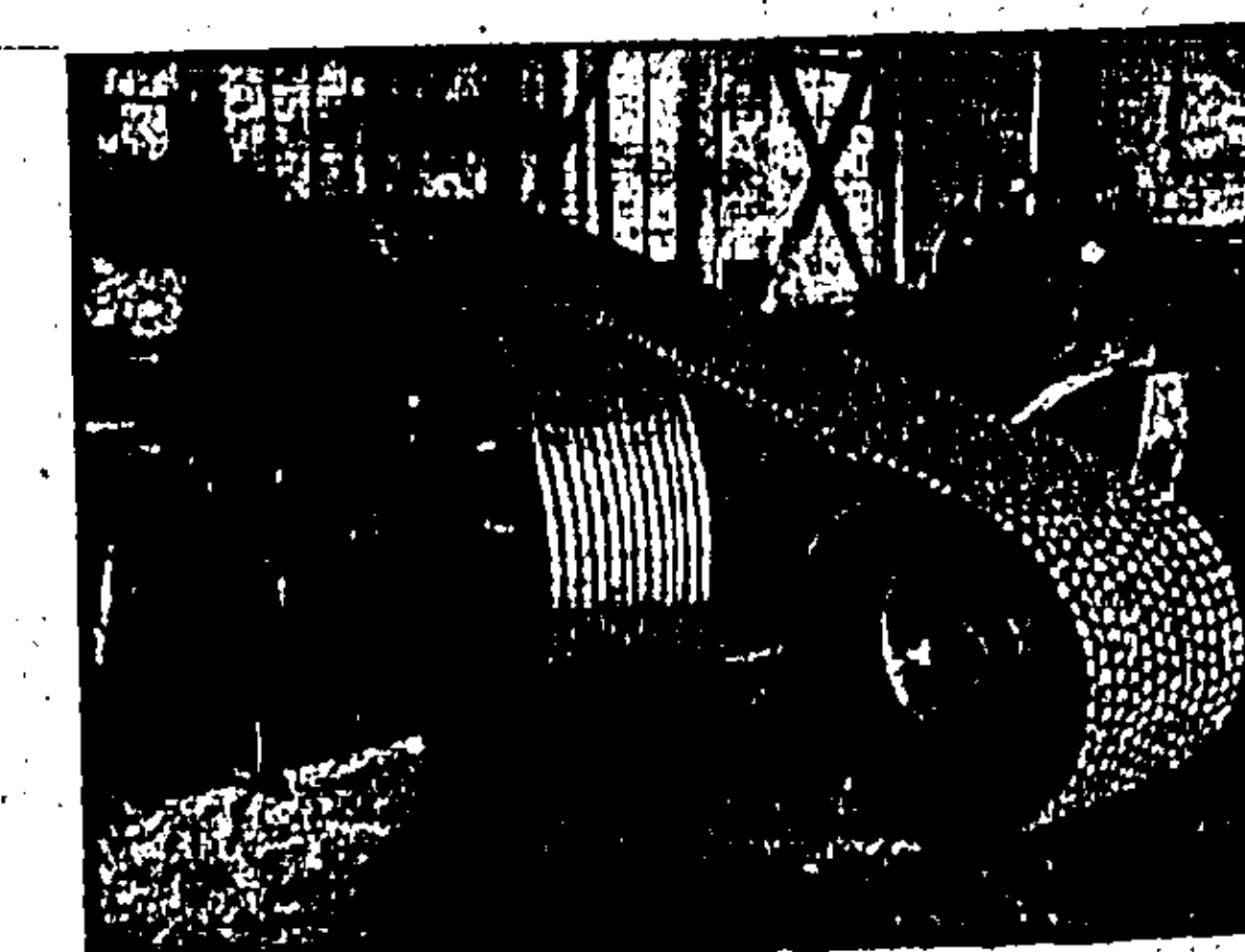
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RUSO-U.S. RELATIONS EXPECTED TO WORSEN

Moscow rejection of U.S. note almost inevitable

Washington, April 18.

A severe and continuing deterioration of American-Soviet relations is regarded as inevitable following the United States' note to Russia concerning the loss of an American plane over the Baltic. Russia is expected to reject uncompromisingly the United States Government's account of the incident and the American demands. Officials will not speculate about what action the United States might take if the demands are rejected.

Observers here are at a loss to explain why Soviet fighters should have gone out into the Baltic to shoot down an unarmed American plane.

One theory is that the plane was carrying highly secret and valuable new electronic equipment which the Soviet military authorities wished to obtain.

According to this theory the Soviet fighters intercepted the American plane over the Baltic and ordered it to land in Soviet-controlled territory.

When the Americans refused to comply, the Soviet fighters shot down the United States plane and destroyed witnesses to the interception, the theory runs.

The United States in the note, charges that Russia had shot down the missing American Navy aircraft over the open sea.

Inquiry demanded

In a reply to the Russian note on the incident, the United States demanded that Russia institute a prompt and thorough investigation.

The United States further demanded that strict instructions should be issued to the Soviet Air Force that there be no repetition under whatever pretext of similar incidents.

The United States' reply was made in a note delivered in Moscow today in reply to the Russian charges that an American bomber fired on Soviet fighter planes over Latvia on April 8.

The American note said that the missing Privateer was the only American aircraft which was in the air in the Baltic area on April 8, when the alleged incident over Latvia took place.

The note said that no trace of the Privateer's crew of 10 had since been found.

The sternly-worded note, rejecting the Russian protest, said that the investigation conducted by the United States Government had convinced it that the Navy plane complied strictly with instructions not to fly over foreign territory. It did not fly over any Soviet or Soviet-occupied territory or adjacent territorial waters, the note declared.

Demand for indemnity

"It must be concluded that Soviet military aircraft fired upon an unarmed American plane over the open sea, following which the American aeroplane was lost," the note added.

"The Ambassador of the United States has been instructed to protest in the most solemn manner against this violation of International Law and of the most elementary rules of peaceful conduct between nations."

"The United States Government demands that the Soviet Government institute a prompt and thorough investigation of this matter in order that the facts set forth above may be confirmed to its satisfaction."

"The United States Government further demands that the most strict and categorical instructions be issued to the Soviet Air Force that there be no repetition, under whatever pretext, of incidents of this kind, which are so clearly calculated to magnify the difficulties of maintaining peaceful and correct international relationship."

"The United States Government confidently expects that, when its investigation is completed, the Soviet Government will express its regret for the unlawful and provocative behaviour of its aviators, will see to it that those responsible for this action are promptly and severely punished and will, in accordance with established custom among peace-loving nations, pay appropriate indemnity for the unprovoked destruction of American lives and property."

Aggressive tone

Mr. Michael McDermott, the State Department spokesman, said in a statement when he released the text of the note:

"The American reply corrects the distortions of fact which the Soviet Government has injected into the incident, and puts the matter in its true light as an attack against unarmed Americans."

"The Scandinavian countries have been very helpful and co-operative in the humanitarian rescue work undertaken in connection with the disappearance of this plane."

"By contrast, there has not been the slightest evidence of any concern on the part of the Soviet Government over the fate of our plane and its personnel."

"Moreover, the Soviet Government has thus far shown no sign of regret for its attack against the American aircraft. Instead, it has taken an aggressive tone and attempted to justify its action by impossible allegations."

False claims

"It has charged that the American aircraft fired first, when the American plane had nothing with which to shoot and was too slow a craft to attack fighters."

"Moreover, it has attempted further to confuse the issue with

false propaganda claims and discharges against the United States in the controlled Soviet Press.

"This attitude of the Soviet Government shows clearly the insincerity of its oft-proclaimed desire for peaceful relations with the United States and the non-Soviet world in general."

"The cause of peace is not furthered when the USSR ostentatiously decorates Soviet airmen in a manner calculated to give the impression that they are being rewarded for shooting down a defenceless American plane."

"Meanwhile the rubber aircraft life raft picked up in the Baltic on Sunday by the British steamer Beechland may possibly, but not positively, have come from the missing Privateer, American Captain Jack Klingler, who commanded the Baltic search operation for the Privateer, told Reuters in Copenhagen."

The raft, brought to Copenhagen today by air from Stockholm, is being forwarded at once to the American Air Force Headquarters at Wiesbaden.

Firm stand demanded

Chairman Carl Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee said today that the United States must be prepared with a powerful air force to back up the note of protest to Russia.

The Georgia Democrat praised President Truman and the Secretary of State, Mr. Acheson, for their handling of the incident.

He told newsmen: "We must be firm and positive, and let the Russians know that they can't push us around and that we are prepared to back up any notes we send them. In that way we can keep the peace."

Senate Democratic leader Scott Lucas said regarding the American note of protest to Moscow: "It is unbelievable that such an incident could happen. But it has. It is a very serious matter."

—Reuters and United Press.

DENUNCIATION OF A-BOMB

Melbourne, April 18.

The "Australian Peace Congress" today demanded unconditional prohibition of the atomic bomb, and branding as war-criminal any government which first uses this weapon.

The Congress invited Britain's "Red Dean" of Canterbury, the Reverend Hewlett Johnson, to be the first to sign the declaration, which, it hopes, will be signed by more than 1,000,000 Australians.

The declaration reads: "We declare that no nation has the right to use the atomic bomb, which is not a weapon of war but a means of exterminating whole populations. We demand its unconditional prohibition under strict international control. We brand now, in advance, as war criminal the Government which first uses atomic weapons."

—United Press.

Russia to ignore Chiang charges

Lake Success, April 18. Russia will take no official notice of the Chinese Nationalist charges accusing her of supplying military aid to the Chinese Communists, Mr. Jakob Malik, the Russian permanent United Nations representative, said today.

He told the Secretary-General, Mr. Trygve Lie, that he would not pass on to Moscow a letter containing accusations made by Dr. T. F. Tsiang, the chief Chinese Nationalist delegate. He returned a note from Mr. Lie, which referred to the charges.

In his reply, Mr. Malik said his delegation was "unable to bring to the cognizance of the Government of the USSR the letter of a private individual illegally claiming the status of a representative to the United Nations, which was referred to in your note and which contains unsubstantiated and entirely fictitious slander." —Reuters.

DRASTIC MOVE BY PRAGUE

Prague, April 18.

Members of the Catholic monastic Orders in Czechoslovakia will be assembled in a number of monasteries where they will devote themselves exclusively to their religious tasks, an official statement broadcast by Prague Radio tonight said.

Monasteries which are being evacuated, the statement said, will in future be used by the Government-sponsored Catholic welfare organization, Charita, and for health institutes.

The official statement did not specify which, or how many, monasteries will be, or are being, evacuated nor how many monks have been removed to other monasteries.

The statement said: "It has been proved at the recent trial of monastic priests that many monasteries were being used to shelter hostile agents, spies and even murderers."

"In some monasteries weapons and secret broadcasting apparatus were discovered and many monasteries served as bases for espionage and disruptive activities."

"In order to stop this hostile activity of the Catholic Orders, measures have been taken which will bring these Orders back to their original and true religious mission."

The statement alleged that it had been established that only a few people lived in these monasteries. They did no work but mostly busied themselves with inciting the population.

"The empty monastic buildings will continue to serve the needs of the Catholic Charita and social and health purposes. Some will be turned into flats, of which people living nearby are so short," the statement added. —Reuters.

Calcutta, April 18.

India will take over the administration of Chandernagore, the three-square-mile French settlement near here, on May 2. This decision was taken at a meeting of representatives of the Indian, French and West Bengal Governments. Chandernagore voted to merge with India at a plebiscite held last June. —Reuters.

Incorporation of Arab Palestine into Transjordan

London, April 18.

King Abdullah of Jordan will announce the formal incorporation of Arab Palestine into the Kingdom of Jordan next Monday at the opening session of the newly-elected Jordan Parliament in Amman.

This move has been generally expected since the Jordan elections a week ago in which 20 of the 40 deputies represented districts of Arab Palestine, now occupied by the Jordan Arab Legion.

The formal announcement is expected to be made when these deputies take their seats in the new Parliament.

In diplomatic quarters here it is thought that though Britain had not been formally consulted about King Abdullah's move, it will have the general support of the British Government.

But other members of the Arab League uphold the claims of the "Gaza Government," supported by the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin El Husseini, who is at present in exile in Egypt, to create and govern a separate Arab State in Arab Palestine.

Following the creation of the State of Israel in part of the former mandated territory of Palestine, British experts have opposed the creation of a further separate Arab State in the Arab rump of the country.

King Abdullah tonight arrived in the Old City of Jerusalem, the "Voice of Israel" Radio in Jewish Jerusalem reported.

Faisal cautious

Prince Faisal, the Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, was non-committal when asked at a Press conference in Cairo today to define Saudi Arabia's position in the East-West struggle.

"We are all subject to circumstances," he said. "We may have something in our minds today and circumstances may force us to change it tomorrow."

He denied reports that the United States is planning to set up military or strategic bases in Saudi Arabia.

Prince Faisal, who headed the Saudi Arabian delegation to the recent Arab League Council in Cairo, said that the Council had produced something more concrete than at previous sessions.

He gave as examples the collective security pact linking the seven member States in a military and economic alliance, and the decision to apply political and economic sanctions against any member State which did not comply with, or carry out, the League's decisions.

"It is my personal opinion that the Arab countries were hitherto insincere in their co-operation with one another," he said. "In the Palestine war not all the Arab countries fulfilled their obligations."

No differences

Asked if the Arab States should join a broader Middle East or a Mediterranean Pact, he said: "Arabs should first fulfil their obligations towards each other, embodied in their own collective security pact before they consider joining other groupings."

He disclaimed knowledge of Western pressure on the Arab States to conclude peace with Israel.

Asked by an Egyptian reporter why Saudi Arabia did not use oil as a weapon against United States aid to Israel, Prince Faisal replied: "Saudi Arabia is not the only Arab country with oil resources. We differ from the others in that we have obligations towards companies, whereas other

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GENERAL STRIKE IN SAIGON

Saigon, April 18.

Government post office employees went on strike today in compliance with a call by the Communist-led Vietminh for a general strike and mass demonstration in Saigon.

Police and French troops immediately took emergency precautions.

The strike was ordered to protest the arrest of an alleged leader of bloody demonstrations here on March 10 when two American destroyers visited Saigon.

Many shops were closed and Vietnamese staffs failed to report for work in some foreign banks and other commercial firms.

The Vietnamese telegraph agency accepted only priority cables. City utilities otherwise functioned normally but the strike appears to be spreading to other official services.

The Vietnamese police have been ordered to oppose forcefully unauthorized mass demonstrations due to take place in the next 24 hours. Students said they would continue with their announced demonstration despite police action.

Leaflets of the rebel Vietminh forces and the Vietminh radio on Monday ordered the demonstrations to protest against the April 13 arrest of Nguyen Huu Tho, head of the pro-Vietminh Lien Viet party. A Vietnamese lawyer, he is waiting trial on charges of organizing a four-hour demonstration at the time two American destroyers were in the harbor. Two students and a policeman were killed in the disturbances. French soldiers used tear gas to disperse the 4,000 demonstrators.

The attorney was first arrested on March 20 but was subsequently released. The police said he had resumed underground activity and are now holding him for trial. —Associated Press.

AMAZING SIGHT ON AERODROME

Sydney, April 18.

Three persons escaped injury today when a jet Vampire fighter landing at Bankstown airport crashed into a small training plane, lifting it into the air and carrying it several hundred yards.

Both planes were wrecked in the mishap, which eye-witnesses called the most remarkable sight ever seen at the field.

The smaller plane, a Tiger Moth, was blind-flying at the time, with a hood covering the cockpit. Alexander Garrick, its pilot, said: "I thought I was making a good landing when I heard a whistling sound. I thought I'd blown a tyre. Then I felt a jolt. The Moth picked up speed and I saw a Vampire underneath me."

Garrick jumped out before either plane hit the ground and landed on the fighter's wing. —United Press.

JAFFA TRAGEDY

Tel Aviv, April 19.

Thirteen people were still missing early today after a 24-hour search through the debris of a four-storeyed Jaffa house which collapsed on Sunday night "like a pack of cards."

There was little hope of saving them, officials said. Eleven bodies have been found in the wreckage and 22 injured were in hospital. —Reuters.

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BOMB IN PLANE CASE

STEWARDESS' STORY OF MARRIAGE OFFER

Los Angeles, April 18.

A pretty airline stewardess said today that John Grant had told her he expected to be free to marry her a few hours before he planted an incendiary time-bomb on an airliner carrying his wife and children.

However, the 31-year-old aircraft engineer told the police he had no intention of marrying golden-haired Elizabeth Suomela, despite her story that he had courted her for several years and had told her he was separated from his wife.

Grant admitted he built the bomb and placed it on a United Airlines plane in a plot to kill his wife and two children.

He said he had been driven crazy by debts and was motivated by the thought of the US\$25,000 insurance his family drew shortly before going aboard an airliner bound for San Diego.

Miss Suomela's romance with Grant was uncovered when the police learned that the car he had used to drive his family to the airport was registered under the 31-year-old stewardess. Contacted by officers, Miss Suomela readily admitted her romance with the aircraft engineer, but said that during the three years she had known him he claimed he was separated from his wife and would be divorced.

The stewardess said, "Yesterday morning he told me he was on his way for the final hearing for the divorce. He said he would call me in the afternoon

and let me know how it came out."

Cyanide pills

She added that about a year after they met Grant asked her to marry him. She said she waited patiently for him to go through with divorce proceedings.

Grant, however, told the police he was "stringing her along." Miss Suomela was in tears throughout the interview. After the disclosure of her affair with Grant, she resigned as assistant supervisor of stewardesses for American Airlines.

The police placed a watch over Grant after they discovered a noose fashioned from cloth in his mattress in the Venice sub-station room. Detective-Lieutenant J. R. Goldstone also reported that cyanide pills were found in the car Grant had been using. United Press.

Nehru's visit to Karachi

New Delhi, April 18.
The Indian Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, is expected to go to Karachi on a two-day visit next week before the Pakistan Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, leaves for London on his way to Washington.

The visit follows the recently concluded Indo-Pakistan agreement on minorities. Pandit Nehru may leave for Karachi on April 24 and return here on April 26.

His Secretariat today denied a report from Karachi that Pandit Nehru may accompany Liaquat Ali Khan to London and Washington. —Reuter.

MALAYA TOLL

London, April 18.
The War Minister, Mr. John Strachey, told Parliament today that the battle casualties to troops serving in Malaya between May 1, 1948, and February 28, 1950, were 23 officers and 111 other ranks killed and 17 officers and 170 other ranks wounded.

In the same period, two officers and 10 other ranks were accidentally killed and one officer and 23 other ranks accidentally wounded.

From January, 1948, to December 31, 1949, some 30,000 officers and other ranks (excluding the Malay Regiment) were admitted to hospital. —Reuter.

IMPERIAL ANTHEM SUNG IN GERMANY

Berlin, April 18.

The three Western Commandants of Berlin remained seated this morning when the band unexpectedly struck up "Deutschland Über Alles" for the first time since the war on an important official occasion.

The old Imperialist anthem followed a speech by the West German Chancellor, Dr. Konrad Adenauer, on his first official visit here. Some 2,000 politicians in the audience sang it at the top of their voices. The incident was repeated later in the day.

The Chancellor himself, after his speech, had asked them to rise and sing the third stanza of the anthem as a manifestation of Germany's will to be a unified, free and peace-loving people.

Berlin's Social Democratic leader, Herr Herr Neumann, left the platform followed by about a dozen other Party leaders but his Party colleague and Berlin's Lord Mayor, Professor Ernst Reuter, stayed and sang.

Allied High Commission officials in Bonn said that the three Western Commandants had not necessarily expressed disapproval by remaining seated.

The Commandants would not normally rise for the national anthem of a country with which they were still formally at war. Allied officials also pointed out that this anthem was not banned as such.

Dr. Adenauer urged European statesmen to "act as wisely as the statesmen of the Vienna Congress (135 years ago) who admitted France, the aggressor, as a full member of the concert of Europe."

"The West German Government is convinced that it would be right to incorporate West Germany as soon as possible into Western Europe," he declared.

Hint on control

He pledged himself that he would never rest until a united Germany is a full member of the European family of nations.

Dr. Adenauer also hoped that the promised revision of the Occupation Statute next autumn would reduce Allied control over Germany.

The Chancellor urged the "Big Three" Foreign Ministers to make an intense study of Germany's

problems at next month's London meeting.

Dr. Adenauer declared, "Even the Soviet Union should accept a plan for European federation if her calls for peace are sincere. Our hearts go out to our 18,000,000 German brothers and sisters in the Soviet zone who are denied freedom."

"The Russians are ill advised to force them to accept a political system they do not like."

Second time

For the second time today Germans enthusiastically sang to their feet and sang "Deutschland Über Alles" in the presence of Dr. Adenauer.

At the end of a crowded Christian Democratic meeting here tonight 4,000 Germans spontaneously broke into song after the Chancellor had delivered a patriotic speech.

"We are not nationalists but we are Germans and we love our Fatherland," the Chancellor said amidst applause. He called for German equality with other nations and equal rights in a European Union.

Professor Ludwig Erhard, German Economics Minister, told the meeting. "We Germans are a hard-working people but certain foreign criticism appears to view our labour suspiciously. Germany has contributed more to the success of Marshall Aid than any other European participant." —Reuter.

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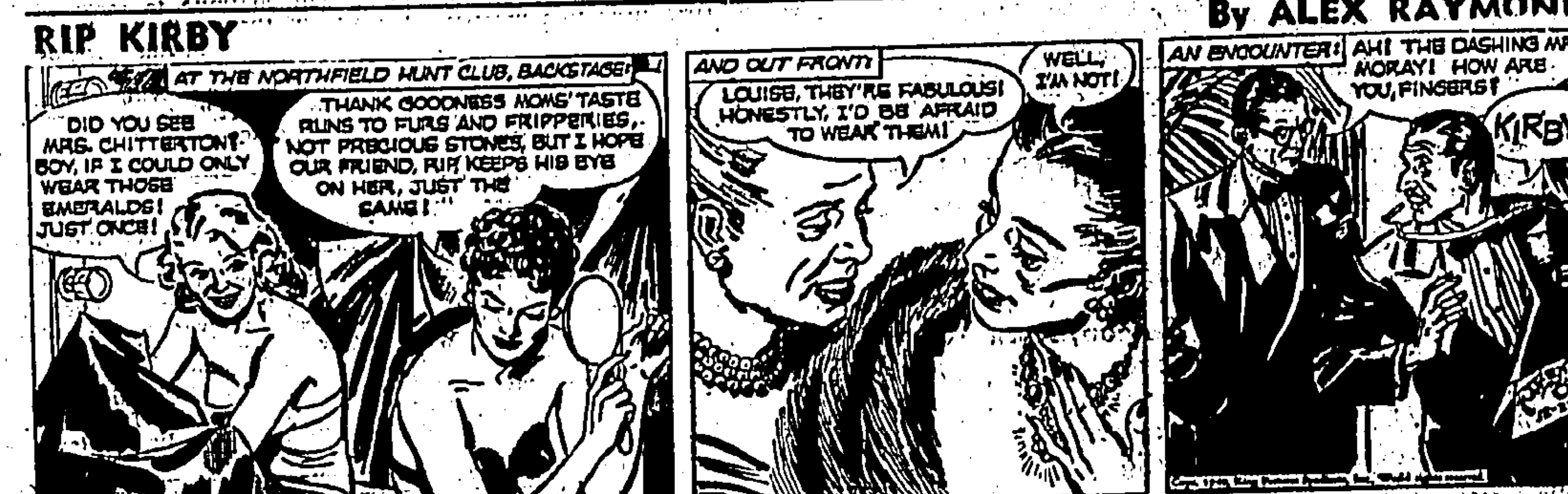
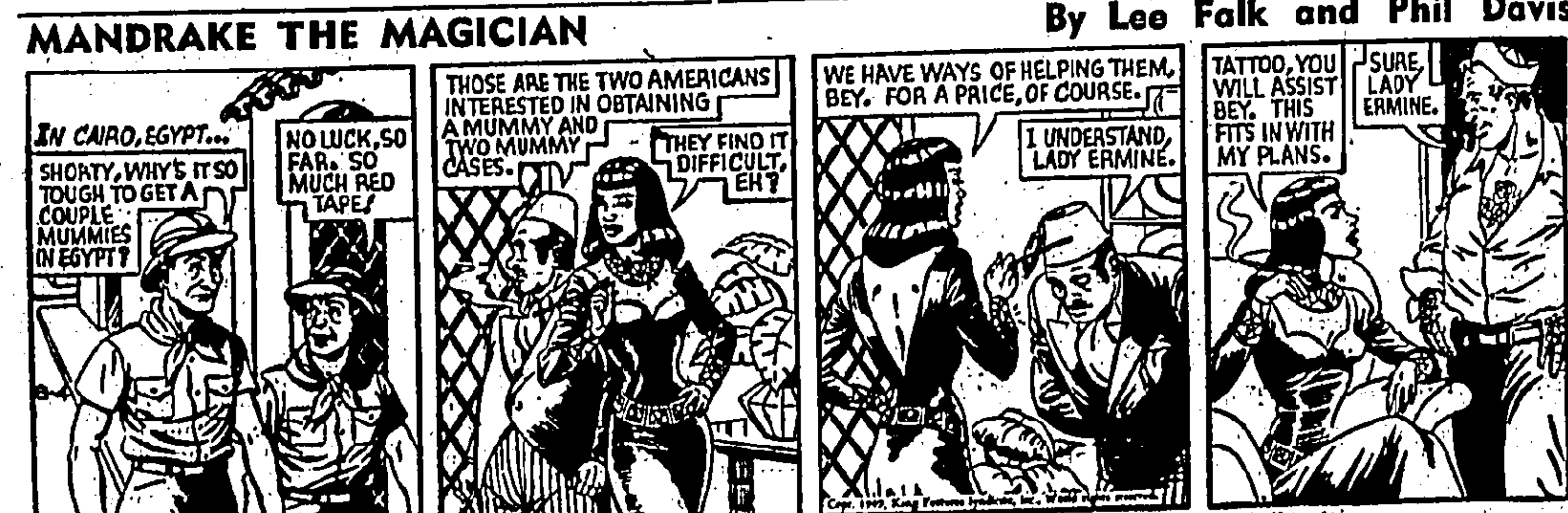
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"FUKIEN"	Keelung, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m. 21st Apr.	
"HUNAN"	Tsingtao & Tientsin	5 p.m. 23rd Apr.	
"SHANSI"	Bangkok	24th Apr.	
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 25th Apr.	
"SZECHUEN"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m. 30th Apr.	

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ARRIVALS FROM			
"SHANSI"	Kobe	21st Apr.	
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	23rd Apr.	
"SZECHUEN"	Bangkok	27th Apr.	
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"CLYTONEUS"	Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool, Dublin & Glasgow	25th May	
ARRIVALS FROM			
"MENTOR"	U.K. via Straits	21st Apr.	
"CLYTONEUS"	U.K. & Rotterdam via Straits	28th Apr.	
"MEMNON"	U.K. via Straits & Philippines	3rd May	
"TYNDAREUS"	U.K. via Straits	6th May	
"ASTYANAX"	U.K. via Straits & Manila	11th May	
"MENESTHEUS"	U.K. via Straits & Bangkok	14th May	
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"SINKIANG"	Japan	4th Week Apr.	
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"CHANGTE"	Sydney & Melbourne	15th May	
ARRIVALS FROM			
"CHANGTE"	Sydney, Brisbane, Cairns & Manila	23rd Apr.	
"SINKIANG"	Australia	4th Week Apr.	
"ANKING"	Osaka	3rd May	
"CHANGTE"	Japan	12th May	

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New version of Asia co-prosperity sphere

Tokyo, April 19.

Dairy Farm Dividend recommended

Subject to completion of audit, the Directors of The Dairy Farm, Ice and Cold Storage Company Limited will recommend to the Shareholders at the next Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Company, on June 7, the payment of a Dividend of \$2.50 per share, free of tax, for the year ended December 31, 1949.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from May 24 to June 7, 1950, both dates inclusive.

The Directors also propose to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held after the ordinary yearly meeting, when Shareholders will be asked to pass the following resolutions—

1. A Special Resolution altering Article 91 of the Company's Articles of Association in order to permit of an increase in the Directors' Fees which fees have not been increased since 1954.

2. An Ordinary Resolution approving the capitalisation of undivided profits of the Company standing at the credit of the Company's Reserve Fund in the order that a Bonus Issue of 400,000 shares may be made in the ratio of one share credited as fully paid in respect of each share held by Shareholders at May 24, 1950; such Bonus Shares to rank for Dividend as from January 1, 1950.

3. An Ordinary Resolution increasing the Authorised Capital of the Company by an additional 3,000,000 shares of a nominal value of \$7.50 each, thus raising the total Authorised Capital of the Company to \$30,000,000 divided into 4,000,000 shares of \$7.50 each, such additional shares to be issued at such time or times and upon such terms and conditions as the Company's Board of Directors in their absolute discretion shall think fit.

If this last Resolution is passed by the Shareholders at the Extraordinary General Meeting, it is the intention of the Directors to offer to members shown on the Register of Members of the Company at May 24, 1950 450,000 unissued shares of the Company in the ratio of one new share for every issued share held by a member at May 24, 1950. The basis of the offer will be that the full nominal value of each share taken up, i.e. \$7.50 per share, shall be paid in full in cash on acceptance by each member or his approved nominee entitled to apply for the said new shares. This offer will close on September 30, 1950 and the new shares so offered will rank for Dividend as from July 1, 1950.

Japanese Government officials will get a chance this afternoon to sound out American ideas on the peaceful version of the ill-fated Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere which Japan tried to impose by force 10 years ago.

The Premier, Shigeru Yoshida, invited delegates to the American economic conference on Asiatic trade to a garden party at the palatial Foreign Minister's residence.

Despite official assertions that the Tokyo conference is a routine meeting of Washington and Asia-based American officials on Asiatic trade bottlenecks, the belief persists in Japanese Government and unofficial American quarters that the conference is a major step toward the American-sponsored Asiatic economic co-operation programme linking Japanese industrial potential with South East Asia's raw materials.

There was a reasonable economic basis for Japan's scheme 10 years ago but Japan tried to force the co-operation of invaded countries and insure prosperity only for its big Zaibatsu cartels who divided up the trade of the area.

Asiatic diplomatic representatives here have told the United Press that regardless of the economic sense of trade co-operation with Japan, their countries will have many reservations about any new scheme which

smacks of the old co-prosperity sphere.

Factory of Asia

The influential daily, "Japan Economist" which often reflects the Government thinking, said today, "All countries in Asia are in need of capital goods and Japan is the only nation in Asia that can supply capital goods at cheap prices."

"On the other hand Japan is a market for raw materials and Asiatic countries are sources of supply."

In order to restore inter-departmental relations, Japan's potential production power should be developed and the purchasing power of other Asiatic nations must be increased. In other words, Japan should be made the factory of Asia.

"Some countries in the past have entertained a sense of insecurity over Japan's rapid recovery from the wounds of war but as the international situation stands the notion of threat of Communism is incompatible with the imaginary menace of a defeated Japan, and the fear of Japan seems to have somewhat abated."—United Press.

Kashmir mediator to start next month

New York, April 18.

No definite information regarding the plans of the United Nations special representative in Kashmir, Sir Owen Dixon, has yet reached the Security Council.

Some delay may occur over his arrival and he may not reach Lake Success before the beginning of May. The United Nations official said Sir Owen might spend at least a week at Lake Success studying the record and meeting members of the Security Council and the United Nations Kashmir Commission.

According to present indications, Sir Owen may not reach the scene of the dispute until the middle of May.

Would-be robbers sentenced

Two would-be armed robbers were given hard labour terms at the Criminal Sessions yesterday for conspiring to rob the premises on the first floor of 139 Fa Yuen Street, Kowloon, on January 29.

Lai Sung was given three years, while Ip Fuk, who was additionally charged with possession of arms and ammunition, was given four and a half years and 12 strokes.

According to the prosecution, a party of policemen acting on information was stationed in Nathan Road near the Broadway Theatre at the Argyle Street junction on the evening of January 29.

Presently the two accused were seen meeting near the spot, and then walking together along Argyle Street in an easterly direction towards Fa Yuen Street. The police officers followed. At a given signal, they descended on the two. Ip Fuk was found to have a revolver in his pocket, while Lai Sung had some wire.

After their arrest, the two made voluntary statements to the police, as a result of which they were charged with the offence. Both accused denied the allegations of conspiracy from the Crown.

The all-men jury brought in a unanimous verdict, and sentence was accordingly passed by Mr. Justice Goud, Senior Police Judge. Mr. A. Lonsdale, Crown Counsel, assisted by Detective Sub-Inspector W. J. Wall, prosecuted.

FRESH FISH PRICES

Fresh Fish Average prices quoted at the Hong Kong Fish Wholesale Market, Kennedy Street, yesterday.			
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Trout	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Bream	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Bass	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Trout	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Horse	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Eel	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Snake	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Cat	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Dog	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Lion	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Bear	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Pig	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Cow	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Elephant	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Whale	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Monster	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Dragon	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Unicorn	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Centaur	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Gnome	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Dwarf	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Giant	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Titan	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Juggernaut	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Colossus	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Leviathan	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea Behemoth	1.10	1.00	1.00
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Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖怪	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖怪	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
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Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
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Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
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Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
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Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖怪	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
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Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖怪	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖怪	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea怪物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖怪	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea魔物	1.10	1.00	1.00
Sea妖兽	1.10	1.00	1.00

